

VISIT...

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BATMAN

by STARLIN,
APARO &
DeCARLO

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Book Two
of Four

a Death in the Family

Robin finds
his mother.

And waiting is
the Joker,
planning a revenge
that is swift,
violent,
terrible.

Can Robin survive?



A DEATH in the FAMILY

CHAPTER 3



LEBANON, THE BEKAA VALLEY,
THE VERY HEARTLAND OF SHI-ITE
TERRORIST ACTIVITY.

ROBIN AND I ARE HERE ON A
MISSION, A VERY PERSONAL
MISSION.

THIS SENTRY IS GOING
TO HELP US REACH OUR
GOAL.

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writer

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APPARO
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inker

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O'NEIL
editor



HE'S JUST THE
RIGHT SIZE.



ONE OF MY DRUG-TIPPED
DARTS WILL DO THE
JOB NICELY.



IT'LL PUT HIM OUT FOR AT
LEAST SIX HOURS.



THIS IS A
TRICKY
BUSINESS
WE'RE
INVOLVED
IN, DEALING
WITH
COLD-
BLOODED
TERROR-
ISTS.

EACH MOVE MUST BE
CAREFULLY PLANNED AND
EXECUTED. DEATH IS
ONLY A MOMENT'S
CARELESSNESS AWAY.



QUICKLY, GET HIM UNDRESSED.

WISH I COULD HAVE
HANDLED THIS JOB
WITHOUT JASON
TAGGING ALONG.



BUT HE'S THE REASON
WE'RE HERE.

MY HOPE IS THAT THIS
MISSION WILL QUIET
THE ANGRY FIRES
THAT BURN
WITHIN HIM.



HE STARTED
GETTING OUT OF
LINE BACK IN
GOTHAM, TAKING
RECKLESS
CHANCES.

I QUICKLY
REALIZED, THE
PROBLEM WAS
THAT HE'D NOT
YET ADJUSTED
TO THE DEATH
OF HIS PARENTS.



THAT'S WHY I DECIDED
TO PUT JASON ON
INACTIVE DUTY,
TEMPORARILY.

I WANTED TO GIVE
THE BOY TIME TO
COME TO GRIPS
WITH HIS GRIEF.
OF COURSE, JASON
DIDN'T SEE IT THAT
WAY.

WHILE WANDERING AROUND TOWN, TRYING TO WORK OFF HIS ANGER AT THE PERCEIVED REJECTION, JASON RAN INTO A MRS. WALKER, A FRIEND OF HIS PARENTS.

SHE GAVE HIM A BOX, CONTAINING SOME OF HIS FAMILY'S PERSONAL PAPERS.



THE BOX CONTAINED A BOMBSHELL, HIS BIRTH CERTIFICATE.

THAT'S WHEN HE DISCOVERED HIS REAL MOTHER WASN'T CATHERINE TODD. THE UNREADABLE NAME, LISTED UNDER MOTHER, STARTED WITH AN 'S'.



FROM HIS FATHER'S ADDRESS BOOK HE FOUND THREE WOMEN, WHOSE FIRST NAMES STARTED WITH AN 'S'.

HE USED THE BATCAVE'S COMPUTER TO LOCATE THEM.



THERE WAS SHARMIN ROSEN, WHO'D EMIGRATED AND BECAME AN ISRAELI SECRET AGENT.

REPORTS HAD IT THAT SHIVA WOODSAN IS A FREELANCE MERCENARY, CURRENTLY OPERATING IN BEIRUT.

DR. SHEILA HAYWOOD WAS FOUND IN ETHIOPIA, WORKING ON A FAMINE RELIEF PROJECT.



JASON RAN AWAY FROM HOME, TO DISCOVER WHICH OF THESE WOMEN IS HIS REAL MOTHER.

I STUMBLED UPON HIS QUEST WHILE TRACKING THE JOKER TO LEBANON.

THAT MADMAN HAD PLANNED TO SELL A CRUISE MISSILE TO A GROUP OF TERRORISTS.



WE MANAGED TO SPOIL THE JOKER'S NUCLEAR FIRESALE AND SAVE SHARMIN ROSEN'S LIFE IN THE BARSAIN.

BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT THE WAY WE HOPED.

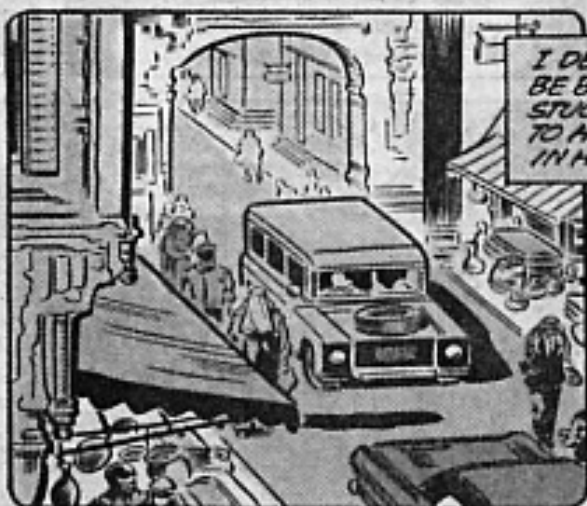
THE JOKER ESCAPED...



...AND IT TURNED OUT SHARMIN ROSEN NEVER HAD ANY CHILDREN.

I DECIDED IT'D BE BEST IF I STUCK AROUND TO HELP JASON IN HIS SEARCH...

...ESPECIALLY SEEING AS HOW THE NEXT LADY ON HIS LIST WAS THE MERCENARY, SHIVA WOODSAN.



TO SAVE TIME,
I CALLED MY
C.I.A. CONTACT,
RALPH
BUNDY.

WITHIN
HOURS HE
WAS ABLE TO
TELL US
WHERE SHIVA
WOOSAN
COULD BE
FOUND.



IMAGINE MY DELIGHT FINDING THAT MS. WOOSAN
WAS STAYING AT MY FAVORITE BEIRUT DIVE, THE
HOTEL BLU.



BUT WHEN
WE ASKED
FOR HER AT
THE RECEPTION
DESK...



(SHIVA WOOSAN?)

(HAVEN'T YOU
HEARD?)*

*Translated From Farsi.

(MISS WOOSAN
WAS STANDING
RIGHT HERE!)



(ALL OF A SUDDEN THIS
CAR PULLED UP!)

(FOUR MEN WITH
MACHINEGUNS
JUMPED OUT!)



(THEY KIDNAPPED
MISS WOOSAN!)

(UNFORTUNATELY,
SUCH THINGS ARE
NOT UNCOMMON
IN BEIRUT.)



STEADY, JASON.
WE'LL FIND HER.

IN FACT, I
KNOW JUST
WHERE TO
LOOK.

WHEN I WAS TRACKING
DOWN THE JOKER, I'D
DISCOVERED THAT BEIRUT'S
CRIMINAL ELEMENT WAS
JUST AS EAGER TO TALK TO
MY BATMAN PERSONA AS
THEIR GOTHAM COUNTER-
PARTS ALWAYS ARE.



THE TRICK IS IN THE WAY YOU
COUCH THE QUESTIONS YOU
WANT ANSWERED.

« YOU CAN FIND THEM AT PASHAR
PASS IN THE BEKRA VALLEY! »

« I WILL GLADLY
DRAW YOU A MAP! »

AND THAT'S HOW WE CAME TO BE HERE, ATTEMPTING TO RESCUE SHYMA WODSAN FROM HER RADICAL SNI-ITE CAPTORS.

WE GOT COMPANY COMING.

TERRIFIC. HE LOOKS TO BE JUST ABOUT YOUR SIZE.

< RAMÍN? >

< FELL DOWN. >

< HOW DID YOU DO THAT? >

< RAMÍN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE? >

< LIKE THIS! >

HURRY UP AND CHANGE.

I'LL GATHER UP THEIR WEAPONS.

A FAMINE RELIEF CAMP JUST OUTSIDE MAGDALA, ETHIOPIA.

I'M LOOKING
FOR A DR. SHEILA
HAYWOOD, MY
GOOD MAN.

YOU'LL FIND
HER IN THAT
TENT OVER
THERE, MISTER.

SHEILA HAYWOOD!

WHO?

LONG
TIME NO
SEE,
CUTIE!

THE
JOKER!!

YOU'VE CERTAINLY
COME A LONG WAY
SINCE GOTHAM,
SHEILA.

NO LONGER PERFORMING
ILLEGAL OPERATIONS
ON TEENAGE GIRLS,
ARE YOU?

WHAT DO YOU WANT
HERE, JOKER?

JUST
LOOKING UP AN
OLD FRIEND WHO'S
MADE SOMETHING
WORTHWHILE OF
HER LIFE.

YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THE
DISTRIBUTION OF ALL
MEDICAL SUPPLIES IN THIS
REGION, AREN'T YOU?

GUESS YOUR
SUPERIORS DON'T
KNOW MUCH ABOUT
YOUR PAST.

LISTEN, JOKER, THAT'S ALL BEHIND ME! I'VE STARTED A NEW LIFE OUT HERE!

WHICH WILL COME TO A DISGRACEFUL END IF CERTAIN FIRST INDISCRETIONS CAME TO LIGHT...

SO IT'S BLACKMAIL, IS IT?

AFRAID SO, DEARIE, TIMES HAVE BEEN TOUGH ON ME OF LATE.

BUT A HALF DOZEN TRUCKLOADS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES WILL GET ME BACK ON MY FEET.

I'VE ALREADY GOT BLACKMARKET CUSTOMERS LINED UP.

LOOKS LIKE THINGS HAVE BEEN ROUGH. THE GREAT JOKER REDUCED TO HIJACKING TRUCKS.

JUST ANOTHER VICTIM OF REAGANOMICS, THAT'S ME.

UNFORTUNATELY, I LIVE IN A WORLD THAT RUNS ON MONEY.

TO STAY IN THE GAME, I NEED OODLES OF CASH.

YOU'RE GOING TO HELP ME GET THAT STAKE, SHEILA DEAR.

IF YOU DON'T, I'LL PULL THE PLUG ON THE GOOD THING YOU'VE GOT HERE.

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT GIVING ME MUCH SAY IN THE MATTER, ARE YOU?

NONE WHAT-SO-EVER...

I COUNT TWENTY MEN IN THE CAMP...

... ALL ARMED TO THE TEETH.

WE'VE GOT TO TAKE THEM
ALL OUT BEFORE ANYONE
REALIZES THERE'S AN
ENEMY AMIDST THEIR
NUMBERS.

IT'S GOING TO TAKE
EVERY OUNCE OF
STEALTH WE POSSESS
TO PULL THIS OFF
WITHOUT BEING
DISCOVERED.

WAK

WAM



PSST!

HUH?

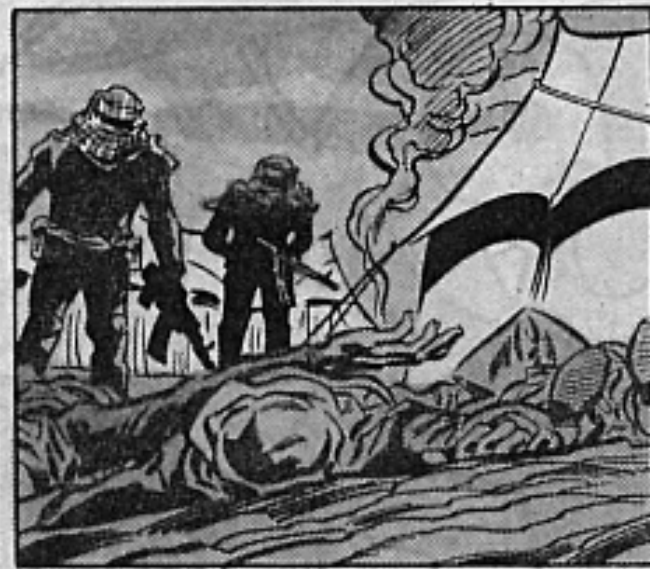
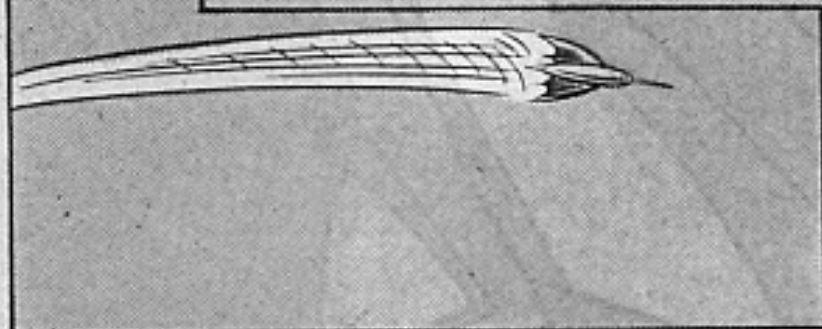
(RAMIN,
IS THAT
YOU?)

KER-THACK

PART OF ME IS BOTHERED
BY HOW SMOOTHLY THIS
IS ALL GOING.

I DON'T LIKE IT
WHEN IT GETS TOO
EASY.

IT MAKES ME NERVOUS,
WAITING FOR THAT OTHER
SIDE TO DROP.



I THINK HE'S
THE LAST
ONE.

DON'T SEE
ANYONE
ELSE.

(GREETINGS,
ABDUL.)

(JUST SOMEONE WHO
WANTS TO KNOW WHERE
SHIVA MOOSAN IS.)

(YOU BETTER.
'CAUSE IF YOU
DON'T...)

(SHE'S IN THE
TENT IN THE
CENTER OF THE
CAMP...)

(MY NAME'S
NOT ABDUL!
WHO ARE
YOU?)

(AND
YOU
EXPECT
ME TO
TELL
YOU?)

(... THAT MAN
STANDING BEHIND
YOU, WITH A
MACHINEGUN,
WILL BLOW YOUR
BRAINS OUT.)

THANKS.

FIGURE ANYONE'S
IN THERE WITH HER?

LET'S PLAY
IT LIKE
THERE IS.

WHY
DON'T
WE LOSE
THESE
DUDS
WHILE
WE'RE
AT IT?

OKAY, I DON'T SEE ANY
FURTHER NEED FOR
THESE DISGUISES.

TERRIFIC. I
THINK I HAVE
COMPANY IN
HERE WITH ME.

WE TAKE THE TENT
BY THE NUMBERS.

I'M STILL CONCERNED
ABOUT THE ERSE OF
THIS OPERATION.

THE TENT'S EMPTY, JUST AS
I HALF EXPECTED.

SHE'S
GONE!!

YOU DON'T THINK
THEY'VE KILLED
HER, DO YOU?

NO, SHE'S AROUND
HERE SOMEWHERE.

I KNEW TAKING
THIS CAMP WENT
TOO EASILY.

THESE WEREN'T SEASONED
VETERANS WE FACED.

REAL ARMS
WOULDN'T HAVE
ALLOWED THEMSELVES
TO BE CAUGHT SO
FLATFOOTED.

I THINK WHAT WE'VE
STUMBLED UPON IS A
TERRORIST
TRAINING CAMP

AND I'VE GOT A
PRETTY GOOD
IDEA WHO THE
HEAD INSTRUCTOR
AROUND HERE
IS...

NO THINK

IT IS A WISE MAN
WHO REFUSES TO
ALLOW HIS EGO THE
ABILITY TO BLIND
HIM TO THE
TRUTH.

A black and white comic book page featuring Batman and Lady Shiva. Batman, in his iconic suit and cape, is shown from the waist up, leaning forward with his hands outstretched. Lady Shiva, dressed in a black tactical suit, stands opposite him, holding a glowing, spherical object. In the background, a man lies motionless on the ground. The scene is set in a rugged, rocky environment.

SHE OBVIOUSLY MOVES LIKE
THE EVENING BREEZE, TO
TAKE OUT JASON SO
EFFORTLESSLY.

LADY SHIVA.
WE MEET
AGAIN.

YOU SEEMED TO
HAVE WEATHERED
YOUR CAPTIVITY
WELL.

PLEASE,
SPARE ME
YOUR
SARCASM,
BATMAN.

YOU'VE ALREADY
FIGURED OUT THAT I
WAS HIRED TO TRAIN THIS
MOB OF MALCONTENTS.

YOU DIDN'T DO MUCH
OF A JOB OF IT.

I'VE ONLY
BEEN AT IT FOR
THREE DAYS.

GIVE A
LADY A
CHANCE.

BUT I SUPPOSE I SHOULD
THANK YOU FOR ASSISTING
ME IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

YOUR CLANDESTINE
ASSAULT CLEARLY
DEFINED THE AREAS
I'LL HAVE TO WORK
ON WITH THIS
GROUP.

THEN YOU WERE IN
HIDING, WATCHING
ALL ALONG?

OF COURSE.
IT WAS VERY
INFORMATIVE.

YOU WEREN'T KILLING MY PUPILS
OFF, SO I SAW NO REASON
TO INTERFERE...

...UNTIL
NOW.

LISTEN. WE DIDN'T
COME HERE
LOOKING FOR
A SCRAP.

ROBIN AND I
JUST WANT TO
ASK A QUESTION
OR TWO.

I DON'T CARE
ABOUT THE
WAYS OF
YOUR VISIT.

THE FACT THAT
YOU ARE HERE IS
ENOUGH FOR ME.

WHEN LAST
WE MET, I
WAS NOT
ABLE TO PUT
YOUR PROWESS
TO A PROPER
TEST.

OH, NO! NOT
AGAIN!

I CAN'T LET AN OPPORTUNITY
AS GOLDEN AS THIS PASS BY.

A CHANCE TO
TEST ONE'S SKILLS
AGAINST SUCH
TALENTS IS INDEED
RARE.

IT'S A LOT LIKE
BEING A GUN-
FIGHTER IN
THE OLD WEST.

WHEN YOU'RE THE BEST, EVERY JERK
AND HIS SISTER WANTS A CRACK AT
YOUR TITLE.

SORRY, LADY.
I'M JUST NOT
IN THE MOOD
FOR THIS.

KER-THUNK

SHE'S BETTER THAN GOOD.

I DIDN'T EVEN
SEE THAT SIDE
KICK COMING.

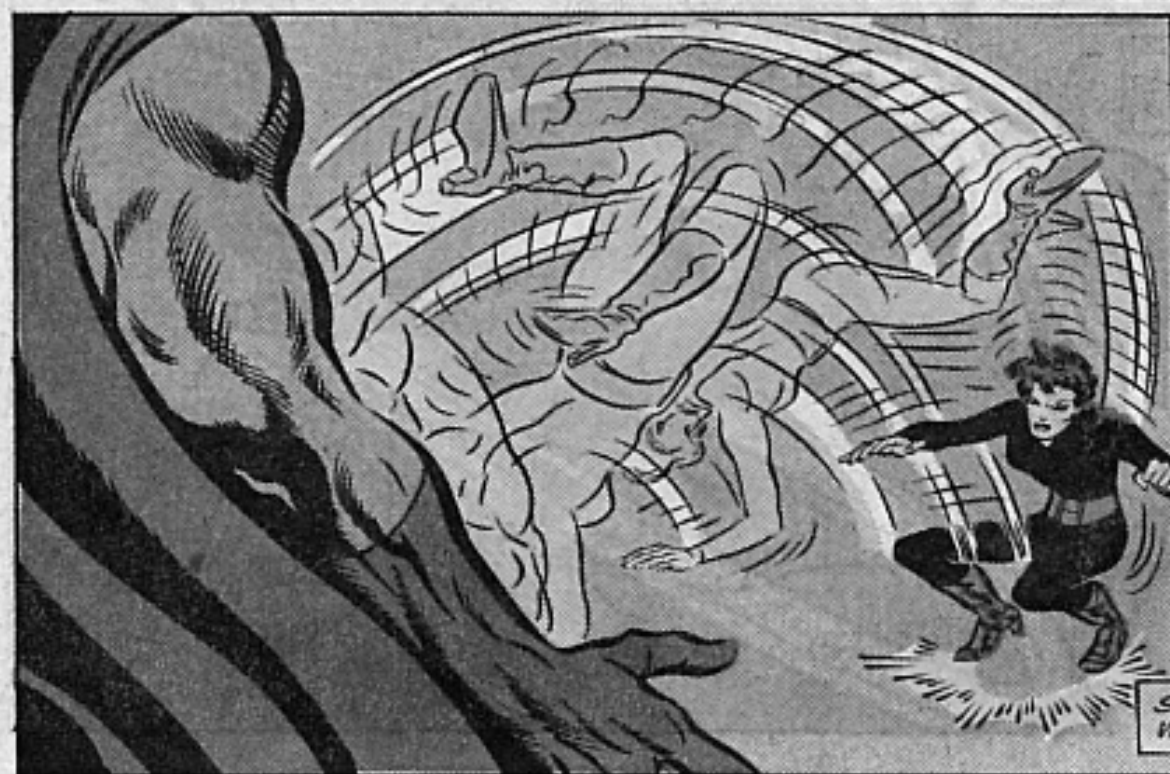
SHIVA'S EASILY GOT
THE HITTING POWER
OF RA'S AL GHUL
AND THE SPEED AND
AGILITY OF THE
SENSEI.

I SUDDENLY
REALIZE I'VE
GOT A REAL
FIGHT ON
MY HANDS.

IF I DON'T START TAKING
THIS LADY SERIOUSLY, I
COULD END UP DEAD.

GETTING RID OF THESE
DISTRACTING MUNCHKINS
SHOULD HELP.

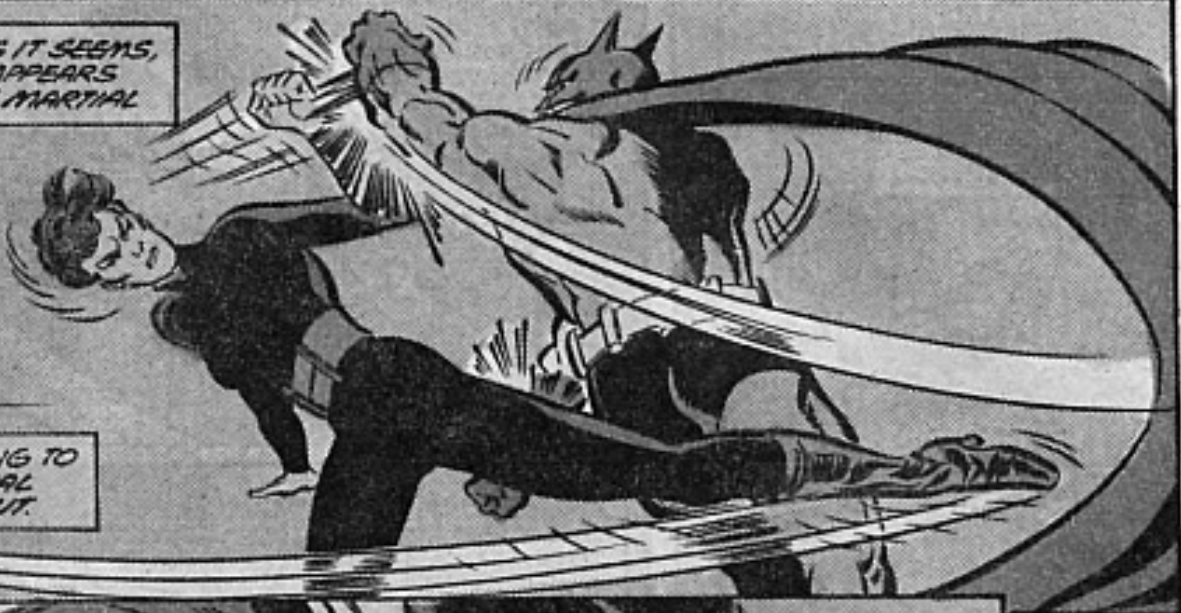
THWACK!



AS HARD TO BELIEVE AS IT SEEMS,
THIS SHIVA WOODSAY APPEARS
TO BE MY EQUAL IN THE MARTIAL
ARTS.

MY ONLY HOPE IS
TO COME IN CLOSE
AND SEE IF I CAN
OUT-MUSCLE
HER.

IT'S GOING TO
BE A REAL
WORKOUT.



COOOOOOOON

WHAT
HIT ME?

WHAT'S
THIS?

BATMAN
AND SHIVA
FIGHTING?

THEY'RE TRYING
TO KILL EACH
OTHER!

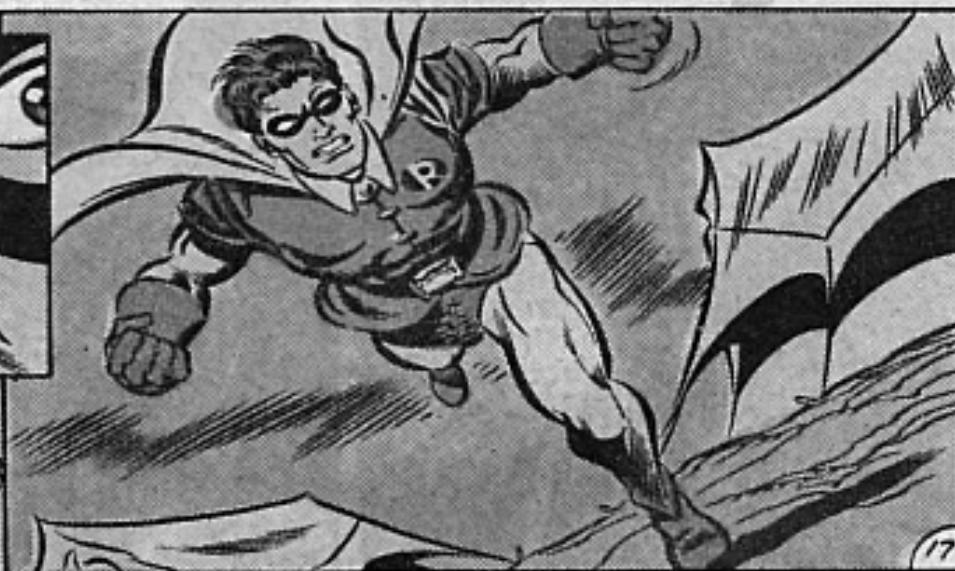
GOTTA
GET INTO
THIS, PUT
AN END
TO IT...

BUT WHO
DO I HELP?



BRUCE, THE MAN
WHO TOOK ME OFF
THE STREETS AND
GAVE ME A HOME?

OR SHIVA,
THE WOMAN WHO
MIGHT BE MY
MOTHER?



I SEE WHAT THE LAD'S UP TO AND
TURN ON THE PRESSURE...

...TO KEEP SHIVA
FROM SENSING
HIS APPROACH.



I TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE
OF THE SITUATION AND
HIT HER WITH EVERY
THING I'VE GOT.



I'M AMAZED
WHEN SHE
DOESN'T GO
UNDER FROM
THE PUNISH-
MENT I
DEAL HER.



FROM SOMEWHERE
DEEP WITHIN, SHE
DRAINS THE STRENGTH
TO MAKE A LAST
DITCH EFFORT AT
REMAINING THE
OFFENSIVE.



IT'S JUST NOT
ENOUGH.

I END IT AS
QUICK AND
MERCIFULLY
AS I CAN.



CUFF HER AND
BE READY TO TAKE
OFF AS SOON I
GET BACK.



WHAT'ER
YOU UP TO?

GOING TO
INTRODUCE THE
CONCEPT OF
THE FOURTH OF
JULY TO OUR
PLAYMATES.



I TOSSED ALL THE SHI-ITES INTO A
DYCH BEFORE SETTING THE TIME
DELAYED CHARGE IN THE AMMO
STORAGE HUT.

THE SCORPIONS WILL AWAKEN
ALIVE, WITH ONLY THEIR STINGERS
PULLED.

ONCE WE'RE ABOUT TWO MILES FROM
THE CAMP, I DECIDE IT'S TIME TO INTERRO-
GATE MS. WOOSAN.

TIME TO ANSWER
A FEW QUESTIONS,
LADY.

AND IF I CHOOSE NOT
TO ANSWER THEM?

YOU'VE NO
CHOICE IN THIS
MATTER, SHIVA.

I ALWAYS
HAVE A CHOICE.

NOT THIS
TIME.

HAVE YOU
EVER HAD A
BABY?

A BABY?



THAT'S THE BIGGEST TROUBLE WITH THIS LINE OF WORK--
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET THE JOB DONE AND REMAIN A
HERO IN YOUR OWN EYES.

SHIVA.

DID
YOU EVER
HAVE ANY
CHILDREN?



...UGH...
UH...NEH...



...N...N...NO...



WE STUCK AROUND
UNTIL THE EFFECTS
OF THE DRUGS
WORE OFF.

SHE'S
BACK ON HER
TOES. LET'S
HIT THE
ROAD.



YOU PLANNING
ON DRAGGING
ME ALONG?

NO, UNFORTUNATELY
TRAINING TERRORISTS
IS NOT AGAINST THE
LAW IN THIS
COUNTRY.

YOU'RE
FREE TO GO.

BUT YOU ARE
PLANNING
ON LEAVING
ME BOUND
UP LIKE THIS,
AREN'T YOU?

WITH YOUR ABILITIES, YOU'LL
HAVE YOURSELF FREE AND BE
ON YOUR WAY BACK TO CIVILIZA-
TION WITHIN THE
HOUR.

WE'LL BE HALFWAY
TO BEIRUT BY THEN.
ONE GO AROUND
WITH YOU WAS PLENTY
FOR ME, SHIVA.

OUR PATHS
WILL CROSS
AGAIN.

TOO
BAD...

WOULD SHE HAVE BEEN
THE TYPE OF MOTHER
YOU'D WANT TO HAVE?

COURSE NOT.

STILL IT'S KIND
OF A DISAPPOINT-
MENT...

SOUNDS TO ME LIKE SHEILA
HAYWOOD WOULD MAKE A MUCH
BETTER CANDIDATE.

YEAH...

SO LET'S GET
OUR TAILS IN
GEAR, MAN!

ETHIOPIA,
HERE WE
COME!



AN ETHIOPIAN REFUGEE CAMP JUST
OUTSIDE MAGDALA. THE MISERY HAS
RETURNED.

ONCE AGAIN THE WORLD DIDN'T LISTEN
IN TIME. THE SAME MISTAKES WERE
REPEATED.

STARVATION AND DEATH CAST
A LONG SHADOW OVER THIS LAND.

THE REFUGEES FLOCK INTO THE CAMPS
BY THE THOUSANDS EACH DAY. IT'S
UTTERLY HEARTBREAKING.

WHEN I RETURN TO GOTHAM, I'LL SEND OUT
ANOTHER CHECK TO HELP THE EFFORT AND
TRY TO FORGET WHAT I'VE SEEN HERE.

I'M NO DIFFERENT
FROM ANYONE ELSE.

THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH
EVEN BRUCE WAYNE--
AND BATMAN--CAN DO.

THESE GRIM SURROUNDINGS MOMENTARILY
CAUSE ME TO FORGET THE REAL REASON
WE'RE HERE.

BUT ONE LOOK AT
JASON TODD'S
FEATURES BRING
IT ALL BACK TO ME.

WE'VE COME TO FIND
HIS REAL MOTHER.

WE HAVE ONE LAST CANDIDATE
TO INTERVIEW...

...DR. SHEILA
HAYWOOD?

YOU'LL FIND HER
IN THAT TENT. IT'S
HER OFFICE.

THANKS.

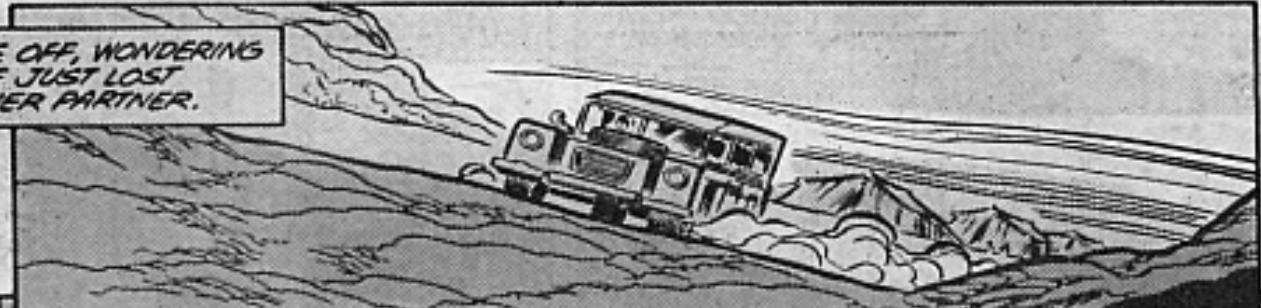
JASON,
WAIT UP!

GUESS I CAN'T FAULT
THE LAD'S IMPATIENCE.

HOW OFTEN, IN LIFE, DO YOU
GET TO MEET YOUR OWN
MOTHER FOR THE FIRST
TIME?



I DRIVE OFF, WONDERING
IF I'VE JUST LOST
ANOTHER PARTNER.



I WAS A STRUGGLING MED STUDENT
WHEN I MET AND FELL IN LOVE
WITH YOUR FATHER.

SHORTLY AFTER YOU
WERE BORN I GOT IN
TROUBLE, WHEN AN
OPERATION I WAS
ASSISTING ON GOT
BOTCHED.

THE INCIDENT PUT AN END
TO MY MEDICAL CAREER
BACK IN THE STATES.

WILLIS WAS SUPPOSED
TO JOIN ME, ONCE I GOT
SETTLED IN ENGLAND.



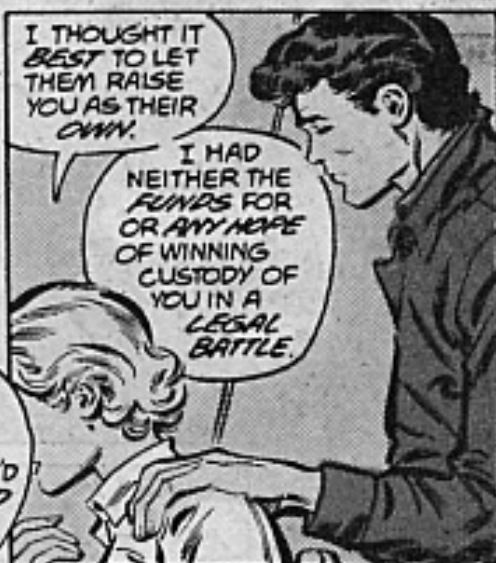
BUT YOUR DAD FELL IN LOVE
WITH A CATHERINE JOHNSON
BEFORE I COULD SEND FOR HIM.



WILLIS
WROTE TO
ME ABOUT
HER, TELLING
ME THAT THEY'D
BEEN MARRIED
A FEW DAYS
EARLIER.

I THOUGHT IT
BEST TO LET
THEM RAISE
YOU AS THEIR
OWN.

I HAD
NEITHER THE
FUNDS FOR
OR ANY HOPE
OF WINNING
CUSTODY OF
YOU IN A
LEGAL
BATTLE.



BESIDES,
A CUSTODY
FIGHT
WOULD HAVE
BEEN TOO
ROUGH ON
YOU.

I FINALLY
ACCEPTED THE
FACT THAT I'D
PROBABLY NEVER
SEE YOU AGAIN.



GOD, IT MUST
HAVE BEEN
HARD FOR
YOU.



I MANAGED... MY WORK
HELPED ME GET THROUGH...



SPEAKING OF WORK,
YOU'RE GOING TO
HAVE TO EXCUSE
ME FOR A
LITTLE
WHILE,
JASON.

HUH?







YES, BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY COVERING THIS UP.

ALL I CARE ABOUT IS GETTING MY HANDS ON THAT SIX TRUCK-LOADS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

HOW YOU ARRANGE IT IS YOUR PROBLEM, SWEETIE.

BUT REMEMBER, IF YOU SCREW THIS UP, YOUR SUPERIORS WILL LEARN OF THE MEDICAL TROUBLE WHICH DROVE YOU TO THIS RATHOLE.

THE GOTHAM CITY POLICE ARE STILL RATHER INTERESTED IN WHO PERFORMED THAT SLOPPY OPERATION ON THAT POOR DEAD TEENAGER.



YOU'VE GOT A GOOD THING GOING FOR YOU HERE AS CHIEF DISBURSER OF ALL MEDICAL SUPPLIES IN THE AREA.

DON'T MESS IT UP!

SHALL WE GO TO YOUR WAREHOUSE, THEN?

MY DRIVERS ARE AWAITING OUR ARRIVAL.



THE JOKER BLACKMAILING MY MOTHER INTO HELPING HIM ON A HAZARDOUS! THIS IS TERRIBLE!

WORSE STILL, THEY'RE TAKING OFF IN HIS JEEP!

HOW DO I FOLLOW THEM?



A MOTORCYCLE!!

SOMEONE UPSTAIRS IS OBVIOUSLY LOOKING OUT FOR ME.



I SAY! THAT'S MY MOTORSCOOTER!!

COME BACK HERE!!

LOOKS LIKE THE JOKER'S
MET UP WITH THE REST
OF HIS GANG.

GUESS NOW
THEY'LL BE
HEADING TO...

"... THE WAREHOUSE WHERE THE
MEDICAL SUPPLIES ARE KEPT."

LET'S GET THOSE
DOORS OPEN,
SHEILA HONEY.

MY BOYS ARE ANXIOUS
TO EARN THEIR SHARE
OF THIS ILL-GOTTEN
BOOTY.

WHY ARE THEY UNLOADING
THOSE BOXES INTO THE
WAREHOUSE?

TO REPLACE THE ONES WE'RE
GOING TO STEAL, OF COURSE.

ARE THEY EMPTY?

NO,
THEY CONTAIN A
MIXTURE
OF MY LETHAL
LAUGHING
GAS!

JUST IMAGINE THE SURPRISE
WHEN ONE OF YOUR BLEEDING
HEART SOCIAL WORKERS OPENS
ANY OF THESE CARTONS.

EACH BOX CONTAINS
ENOUGH GAS TO COVER
A FOUR ACRE STRETCH.

JUST
CONSIDER IT MY
LITTLE CONTRI-
BUTION TO THE
WAR AGAINST
HUNGER.

DON'T LOOK SO DOWN,
SHEILA. I'M DOING
YOU A FAVOR!

THINK OF IT AS JUST
A WAY OF CUTTING
DOWN THE NUMBER
OF MOUTHS YOU HAVE
TO FEED!

THE JOKER ALWAYS
LIKES TO LEAVE HIS
MARK WHEREVER
HE GOES!

YOU
MONSTER...

YOU SAID IT, MA. BUT
DON'T WORRY, I'LL GET
YOU OUT OF THIS MESS.

UNFORTUNATELY,
THERE'S MORE
TROUBLE HERE
THAN I CAN
HANDLE ON MY
OWN.

THIS LOOKS LIKE
A JOB FOR **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN**.

BRUCE! BOY,
AM I GLAD TO
SEE YOU!

WHAT'S
GOING ON,
JASON?!

WE'VE GOT
JOKER
TROUBLE!

THAT
YOUNGSTER
MUST BE
ON DRUGS.

I THINK
THEY BOTH
ARE.

LOOKS LIKE WE MADE
IT BACK JUST IN TIME!

THERE
GOES THE
JOKER'S CONVOY
NOW!

NO!

"THE JOKER'S
TRUCKS HAD
COVERED
CARSO ARMS!"



"THESE TRUCKS ARE
OPEN FLATBEDS!"

THEY'VE GOT TO BE THE
FAMINE RELIEF WORKERS
TAKING A LOAD OF SUPPLIES
TO A REFUGEE OUTPOST.



WE'VE GOT TO
WARN THEM ABOUT
THE DEADLY CARSO
THEY'RE CARRYING.

THEY'LL BE ON THE
MAIN HIGHWAY
IN A MOMENT.



BY THE TIME WE
REACH THE ROAD, THEY'LL
HAVE TOO BAS OF A
HEAD START ON US

GUESS SO.
THAT LANDROVER
WASN'T MADE
FOR HIGH
SPEED
CHASES.



BUT THIS MINI-
COPPER IS.

YOU STAY HERE AND KEEP AN
EYE ON THAT WAREHOUSE
UNTIL I RETURN.



TAKE NO ACTION
UNTIL I GET BACK!
I REPEAT: NO ACTION!

JUST FOR ONCE, PLEASE
LISTEN TO ME, JASON!



DON'T TANGLE WITH THE
JOKER ALONE! WAIT FOR
ME TO GET BACK, PLEASE!

THAT MADMAN'S JUST TOO DANGEROUS
FOR YOU TO HANDLE. DO YOU READ ME?



LOUD
AND CLEAR!
JUST HURRY
BACK!

SORRY,
BRUCE.

... BUT THAT'S MY MOTHER
IN THERE WITH THAT LUNATIC.

MOM.

JASON?!

YOU'VE GOT BIG TROUBLE,
MOM. I KNOW ALL ABOUT
IT... THE JOKER...
EVERYTHING...

I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT?

COME ON, MOM! PLAY
STRAIGHT WITH ME!

I CAN
HELP
YOU!

SURE,
TELL ME
ABOUT IT.



I LIED.



YOU SEE, I CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE YOU STIRRING UP TROUBLE. I'VE BEEN *DIPPING INTO THE MEDICAL FUNDS* MYSELF.

IF YOU BLOW THE WHISTLE ON THE JOKER, THE ENSUING INVESTIGATION WOULD CERTAINLY UNCOVER MY EMBEZZLING.



SORRY ABOUT THAT, KID. LOOKS LIKE YOU CHOSE THE *WRONG PERSON* TO TRUST, THIS TIME.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH HIM?



SOMETHING I'VE WANTED TO DO FOR YEARS...









I SHOULD HAVE HAD ANN COME AFTER THE CONVOY.

BUT HE'D HAVE ONLY REFUSED
TO LEAVE HIS MOTHER. I DIDN'T
HAVE ANY CHOICE, REALLY.

SUDDENLY THINGS GO
FROM BAD TO WORSE.



THE TROOPERS GUARDING
THE CONVOY MISTAKE ME
FOR A HIJACKER.



ONE OF THEM
GETS LUCKY
ON HIS FIRST
SHOT.

THE BULLET TAKES
OUT MY MAIN
HYDRAULICS AND
AN OIL LINE.



TIME TO BAIL OUT.



FORTUNATELY I FIND A NICE
SOFT, TRIGGER HAPPY SOLDIER
TO LAND ON.



I TAKE OUT THE
OTHER ONE WITH
A DRUG-TIPPED
DART.





MAYBE IT WOULD BE BEST IF I DIDN'T LEAVE BEHIND ANY EVIDENCE OF MY PRESENCE.

WHAT THE BATMAN DOESN'T KNOW CAN'T HURT ME!



TOO BAD YOU HAD TO WITNESS THIS LITTLE DISPLAY OF MY TEMPER, SHEILA.

IT WON'T WORK, JOKER! THEY'LL KNOW IT'S YOU FROM THE SLAUGHTERED REFUGEES!



PERHAPS THE AUTHORITIES WILL FIGURE THEIR DEATHS WERE CAUSED BY SOMETHING DISAGREEABLE THAT THEY ATE.

DOESN'T MATTER. THERE WON'T BE ANY DIRECT EVIDENCE CONNECTING ME TO THE BIRDBOY'S DEATH.



THAT'S ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING ASPECTS OF THE BATMAN.

THE RIGHTEOUS BOOB INSISTS ON SOLID EVIDENCE BEFORE GOING NOVA.



WHAT NOW, BOSS?

WE JUST LEAVE LOVELY SHEILA TIED NEXT TO THAT LOVELY BOMB.

ISN'T IT FORTUNATE THAT I NEVER GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT BRINGING ALONG AT LEAST ONE EXPLOSIVE DEVICE.



YOU'VE GOT TEN MINUTES. I'LL ENJOY THE THOUGHT OF YOU COUNTING EVERY SECOND OF THEM. TATA!

JOKER, NO!

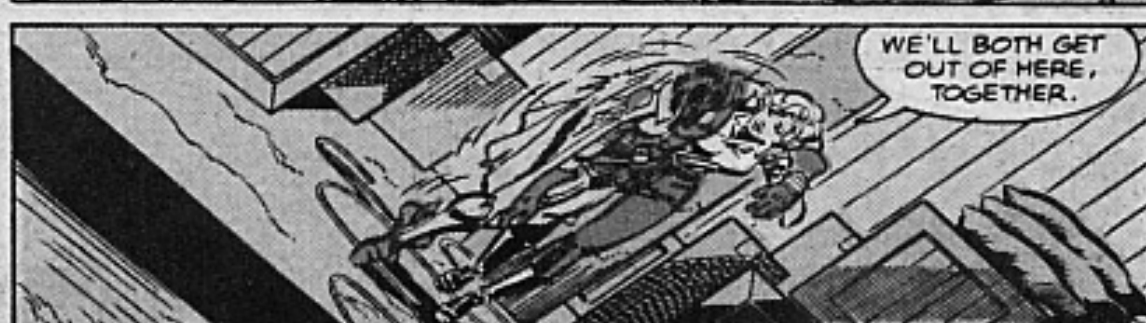
YOU CAN'T... YOU...



THIS ISN'T FAIR, JOKER.

I PLAYED STRAIGHT WITH YOU.





I'M ONLY MINUTES AWAY
FROM THE WAREHOUSE
WHEN I SPOT THEM.

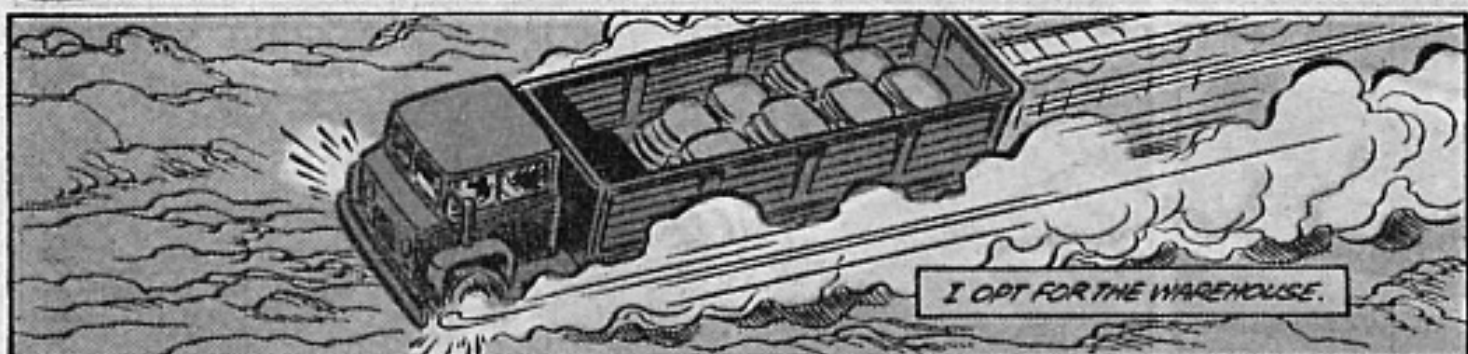


EVEN AT THIS DISTANCE, I RECOGNIZE
THE JOKER AT THE WHEEL OF THE JEEP.

DO I GO
AFTER THE
LUNATIC...



...OR RETURN TO THE WAREHOUSE
TO SEE IF JASON'S ALL RIGHT?



I OPT FOR THE WAREHOUSE.

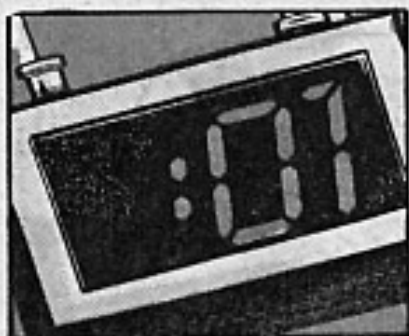


STAY HERE WHILE
I GET THE DOOR.



THE
DOOR!!

...WHAT'S
WRONG?





JASON!!

OH, MY
GOD...

OH, MY
GOD...NO...

CONTINUED...